

REMARKS

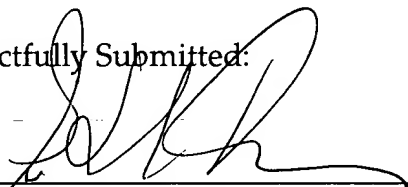
The Office Action dated August 13, 2003 has been received, its contents carefully noted, and the applied citations thoroughly studied. Accordingly, the foregoing revisions to the specification and claims are tendered with the conviction that patentable contrast has now been made manifest over the known prior art. Accordingly, all rejections tendered by the Examiner in the above-referenced Office Action are hereby respectfully traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner states the application is patentable at paragraph 14 because the prior art fails to provide a freezing step. Taking the Examiner at his word, this limitation has been imported to the independent claims, rendering them allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner pass this case to issue. If, upon further consideration, the Examiner believes further issues remain outstanding or new ones have been generated, undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner call undersigned to expeditiously resolve same.

Dated: February 13, 2004

Respectfully Submitted:



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